AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Ten Year Review Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Deletion of Cynometra hemitomophylla from Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

The Swiss Confederation.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Magnoliopsida (Dicotyledonae)

12. Order: Fabales

13. Family: Leguminosae (= Fabaceae)

131. Subfamily: Caesalpinioideae

14. Species: Cynometra hemitomophylla (Donn. Smith) Rose 1930

15. Common Names: English:
French:
Spanish: Guapinol negro, Cativo, Caracolillo

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Endemic to Costa Rica; known from Atlantic and Pacific watersheds at low elevations (Holdridge and Poveda, 1975). Some collections from Puntarenas: Santo Domingo de Osa, Golfo Dulce; near Palmar Norte, Río Terraba; and Limón: Río Reventazón, below Cairo (Smithsonian Institution, n.d.).

22. Population: Throughout the Golfo Dulce area the species was fairly frequent (Allen, 1956). It is occasional in Corcovado National Park (Hartshorn and Poveda, 1983).

23. Habitat: A canopy tree on slopes in tropical wet forest (Holdridge Life Zone system) (Hartshorn and Poveda, 1983); in forests and along small streams (Allen, 1956).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: "The hard, heavy wood is apparently not used" (Allen, 1956).

32. Legal International Trade: No evidence (Oldfield, 1988). According to the Costa Rican Dirección General Forestal [in litt. to the IUCN Threatened Plants Unit (TPU), 1980], there is no Costa Rican trade in this species. (Resolution Conf. 4.26 encourages completion of the 10-year review.)

33. Illegal Trade: None known.

34. Potential Trade Threats: Unknown. There had been timbering in the area now conserved as Corcovado National Park, which is most accessible by sea (IUCN, 1989). However, according to Record and Hess (1943), the American species of Cynometra are of no commercial importance, either because they are scarce or because of their poor timber form (a view repeated by Holdridge and Poveda, 1975). The species is not mentioned in the Handbook of Hardwoods (1972) or by Brown (1979). The genus is no longer considered resin-producing (Langenheim, 1973); (some legume resins, i.e. copals, have been used commercially).

4. Protection Status

41. National: An interdepartmental Commission was set up to analyze the situation for this and other native species regulated by CITES, together with other potentially threatened species in Costa Rica (Costa Rican Dirreción General Forestal in litt. to TPU, 1980).

42. International: Unknown. Resolution Conf. 2.19 does not appear to support the CITES listing of this species, in view of its frequency and the lack of trade interest in it.

43. Additional Protection Needs: Unknown. The species is not one of the plants Costa Rica included in the Annex to the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere [OEA/Ser.A/74a (SEPF); cf. Prance and Elias, 1977].

5. Information on Similar Species

Dwyer (1958) lists eight other New World species of Cynometra; none of these occur in Costa Rica. Mabberley (1987) lists 70 species for the genus, with C. alexandri C.H. Wright (central Africa) an important timber species.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

None; to be sought.

7. Additional Remarks

Submitted on behalf of Chairman, Plants Committee.

8. References

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